

10. (Amended) A two way mirror suitable for providing alternatively or simultaneously both [a conventional reflected] an ordinary center rear view mirror image and a video image, said two way mirror comprising, in combination

:

(a) a flat transparent plate;
(b) a reflective film placed upon a backside of said flat transparent plate;
(c) a casing mounted to a backside of said flat transparent plate to hold said two way mirror; and

(d) at least one video display monitor with a built-in light source mounted in said casing and positioned directly behind said reflective film to receive and display image received from a variety of information sources; whereby said two way mirror functions as an ordinary mirror when said video display monitor is inactivated to run off the built-in light source while the same functions as a image display when said video display monitor is activated to turn on the built-in light source.

REMARKS

This is in response to Office Action dated September 15, 1998, mailed from the U. S. Patent and Trademark office. For Examiner's convenience and reference, the response is set forth in the order in which each issue is raised in the Written Opinion.

I. *Drawings*

1. The drawing objection has been duly noted. Correction of such drawing will be forthcoming upon issuance of Notice of Allowance.

II. *Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 112*

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1. The Examiner states that Claims 1, 4, 7, and 10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite because the scope of "conventional" is not clearly defined and it is considered relative with respect to time.

In response to the Examiner's rejection, Applicant has amended claims 1, 4, 7 and 10 to correct indefiniteness errors in order to clearly claim the subject matter.

In claim 1, "conventional" (line 2) has been changed to "ordinary" and "reflected" has been changed to "center rear view mirror" to clarify and distinctly claim the subject matter.

In claim 4, "conventional" (line 2) has been changed to "ordinary" and "reflected" has been changed to "center rear view mirror" to clarify and distinctly claim the subject matter.

In claim 7, "conventional" (line 2) has been changed to "ordinary" and "reflected" has been changed to "center rear view mirror" to clarify and distinctly claim the subject matter.

In claim 10, "conventional" (line 2) has been changed to "ordinary" and "reflected" has been changed to "center rear view mirror" to clarify and distinctly claim the subject matter.

The amended claims now clearly claim what Applicant believes the invention is, and the Examiner's rejection of claims 1, 4, 7, and 10 under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, should be withdrawn.

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2. Claims 2, 5, and 8 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

In response to the Examiner's rejection, Applicant has amended claims 2, 5, and 8 to correct indefiniteness errors in order to clearly claim the subject matter.

In claim 2, "may be" (line 22) has been changed to " can be " to recite a positive limitation to the claimed subject matter.

In claim 5, "may be" (line 2) has been changed to " can be " to recite a positive limitation to the claimed subject matter and to further clarify and distinctly claim the subject matter.

In claim 8, "may be" (line 2) has been changed to " can be " to recite a positive limitation to the claimed subject matter and to further to clarify and distinctly claim the subject matter.

The amended claims now clearly claim what Applicant believes the invention is, and the Examiner's rejection to claims 2, 5 and 8 should be withdrawn.

III. Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 1 - 10 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102 as being anticipated by Secor. Specifically, the Examiner states that Secor discloses a two way mirror suitable for providing a reflected image and a video image.

The Examiner's rejection on the above stated ground is transverse for several reasons. First, Applicant wishes to direct Examiner's attention to the

words "alternatively or simultaneously" in Claims 1, 4, 7, and 10. Applicant believes that the words "alternatively or simultaneously" explicate the dual-functionality of the two way mirror claimed in Claims 1, 4, 7, and 10 which make the claims novel. Secor does not anticipate the ability to use a rear view mirror (refer to figure 6) in the absence of side LCD display attachments as a viewing screen allowing for both a conventional rear view mirror image and a video display image alternatively or simultaneously (please see lines 49-56, column 4 of Secor). Secor is limited to single functionality for all of its viewing screens. Secor provides for viewing screens that only display video images (refer to figures 5 & 6). Secor's use of a mirror in Figure 6 is non-functional as a viewing screen; rather, the mirror is to be used only in its conventional manner while two separate, side LCD screens attached on the left and right sides of the mirror, act as the actual viewing screens. Applicant believes that it accurately claims the use of a conventional rear view mirror as a viewing screen.

In support of Applicant's claim of dual-functionality, Applicant would also like to direct Examiner's attention to the placement of the video display monitors in Claims 1, 4, 7, and 10. Secor claims placement of LCD displays to the "left and right sides of a conventional center rear view mirror" (refer to Figure 6). Applicant claims placement of video display monitors "mounted in and enclosed entirely inside said casing [which holds said two way mirror] and positioned directly behind said reflective film to receive and display image . . ."

Examiner further states that Secor discloses a two way mirror suitable for providing a reflected image and a video image further comprising a video monitor/camera. Applicants respectfully submits that the video monitor/camera in Secor is placed outside of the rear mirror (62 of Fig. 7). In contrast, the monitor of the instant invention is mounted inside the rear mirror (6 of fig. 7 of the instant invention). Applicant believes in light of the dual-

functionality of the two way mirror described above, the use of the video monitor/camera as claimed in Claims 3, 6, and 9 with a dual-function viewing screen has not been anticipated by Secor.

Moreover, Examiner states that Secor discloses a two way mirror suitable for providing a reflected image and a video image with a structure that is considered inherent in a Secor mirror including a flat transparent plate, a reflective film, and a casing conventionally used in rear view mirror assemblies. Applicant believes that the characteristics including a flat transparent plate, a reflective film, and a casing conventionally used in rear view mirror assemblies are "inherent" to ordinary rear view mirror structures.

However, Applicant wishes to direct Examiner's attention to the claims indicating that the two way mirror claimed in Claims 1, 4, 7, and 10 is not just an ordinary rear view mirror structure to be used as the Secor mirror contemplates. Secor's mirror functions singularly as a mirror. Applicant contemplates using a two way mirror in a dual-function mode as a viewing screen.

In view of the foregoing, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner's rejections on the ground of anticipation by Secor be withdrawn.

VI. Conclusion

The Applicant believes that all claims rejected as being indefinite have now been amended, and it is Applicant's belief that the amended claims now point out with particularity and distinctly claim the subject matter of the present invention.

Furthermore, in view of the dual functionality of the two way mirror claimed by Applicant supported by the placement of the video display monitors inside the mirror casing, the prior art cited by the Examiner therefore does

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not render the instantly claimed invention anticipated, nor has the present invention already been patented or described in a printed publication.

In view of the above discussions relating to the adequacy and sufficiency of the written description in the instant specification and the deficiency of the prior art cited by the Examiner, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner's formal objections and rejections be withdrawn and the amended claims be allowed in their present form.

Respectfully Submitted

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